

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include a new FIG. 4. These sheets, which include FIGS. 1a-4, replace the prior sheet, which included FIGS. 1a-3.

Attachments: Three Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful examination of this application and respectfully request the entry of the amendments indicated hereinabove. The Applicants also thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance of Claims 1-4, 6, 9, and 23.

Claims 1-9 and 11-24 are pending. Of the pending claim set, Claims 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 16-18, and 24 are rejected, Claims 13 and 15 are objected to, and Claims 19-22 are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 25 is added hereinabove.

In response to the drawing objections in the Office Action (page 3) the Applicants submit that the 'driver circuitry...between the intervention circuit and the word line as in claim 5' is shown in the new drawing, FIG. 4, and supported in the Specification in paragraphs 0024 and 0027. The Applicants also submit that FIG. 4 and paragraphs 0024 and 0027 of the Specification overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection of Claim 5. Lastly, the Applicants submit that FIG. 1a and paragraph 0021 of the Specification overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection of Claims 7-8.

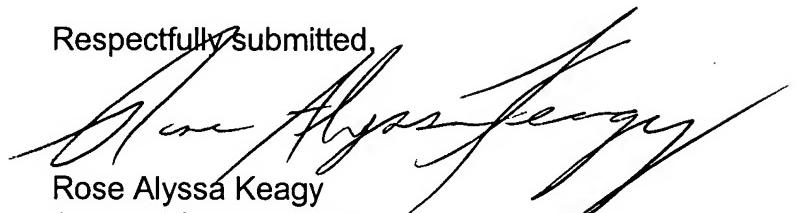
Claim 11 positively recites a power switch having a control signal input. These advantageously claimed features are not taught or suggested by the patent granted to Yanagisawa et al

Yanagisawa et al. does not teach the advantageously claimed invention because Yanagisawa et al. teaches the use of address inputs (FIGS. 2, 4, and 16B, paragraph 0111), but not a control signal input as advantageously claimed. (The inputs to the NOR in Yanagisawa et al. are address inputs - as is common art for an address decode.) The Applicants also submit that those with ordinary skill in the art know that bringing one of the inputs to a NOR gate high is not considered powering down the NOR gate. Moreover, there is a big difference between a power switch and a portion of a NAND gate or the NOR gate (FIG. 16B).

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of Claim 11 and respectfully assert that Claim 11 is patentable over the patent granted to Yanagisawa et al. Furthermore, Claims 12-18 and 24-25 are allowable for depending on allowable independent Claim 11 and, in combination, including limitations not taught or described in the references of record.

For the reasons stated above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rose Alyssa Keagy".

Rose Alyssa Keagy
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 35,095

Texas Instruments Incorporated
PO BOX 655474, M/S 3999
Dallas, TX 75265
Telephone: 972/917-4167
FAX: 972/917-4409/4418